



VERMONT MUNICIPAL CLERKS' & TREASURERS' ASSOCIATION

Miscellaneous Tax Bill – Karen Richard, Chair of the Legislative Committee for VMCTA

Sec. 2. 24 VSA Sec 1168

- Change ~~in writing~~ to electronically – this is not an issue

Sec.11 32 VSA Sec 9606(c)

- Addition of: except the Commissioner shall not disclose the Social Security number, federal identification number, e-mail address, or telephone number of any person pursuant to this subsection – The clerks would welcome this. The clerks use a variety of systems to record the documents that are received. Currently when the PTTR is received, it may be scanned immediately into the system. Does the clerk put a black marker over the SS number? Does the Social security number get redacted when it is scanned? I am not sure how much consistency there is from town to town. Not receiving the personal information in the first place would be welcome.

Sec.12. 32 VSA Sec. 4301(7) (ii)

- Addition of: (ii) A homestead further includes the principal dwelling of a widower or widow when the dwelling is owned by the estate of the person's deceased spouse and it appears reasonably likely that the dwelling will pass to the widower or widow by law or valid will when the estate is settled – I noted this change as we answer a lot of questions re: the homestead. This appears to make sense....

Sec. 14. 32 VSA Sec 5402 (b) (1)

- Addition of: Tax bills shall also include language provided by the Commissioner pursuant to subsection 5405 (g) of this chapter. – The tax bill currently has the verbiage **“For more information about how education tax rates are determined, go online to: <http://tax.vermont.gov/property-owners>”** Do we really need more information? Will there be a phone number to the state tax department included with additional information? Since all information is on the local tax bill of the questions and confusion are directed to the local clerk's office. Will the State pay for the redesign to include the new language?

Sec 16. 32 VSA Sec 5402

- Addition of: (g) The Commissioner shall provide to municipalities for the front of property tax bills the district homestead property tax rate before equalization, the nonresidential tax rate before equalization, and the calculation process that creates the equalized homestead and nonresidential tax rates. The Commissioner shall further provide to municipalities for the back of property tax bills an explanation of the common level of appraisal, including its origin and purpose. – Again, do we really need to provide more information? Being on the front line there is not much demand for this information. Would we need to redesign our tax bills? Is there enough space on the back to add the additional information? An equalization explanation is too complicated to shrink to a few words on a bill. Provide copy of typical tax bill for committee....